



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (POLICY)
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)
VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMMAND,
CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS & INTELLIGENCE)
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION
CHAIRMAN, COST ANALYSIS IMPROVEMENT GROUP

SUBJECT: Missile Defense Support Group

This memorandum sets out my plan to form a Missile Defense Support Group (MDSG) of appointed Department officials to advise the Director, Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and support Senior Executive Council (SEC) decision-making on the ballistic missile defense program. The chairman of the MDSG will be the Director, Strategic and Tactical Systems, who will report directly to me as the USD(AT&L) on MDSG matters.

The MDSG will consist of principals nominated by name from the respective offices addressed in this memorandum, in consultation with the MDSG chair and the Director, MDA, and approved by me. The MDSG members must be well informed to offer useful insights and recommendations on policy, operations, acquisition, and resource matters that affect the overall Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS). The MDSG is not a decision or approval body.

The MDSG Chair shall identify the Executive Secretary for the MDSG. The MDSG shall be supported by designated persons on the MDSG's members' staffs, who will have direct access to information on the BMDS, to include BMDS program information and execution progress, and will be invited to participate in program meetings. Because this access could include sensitive and special access program




information, support staff will be limited. They must be approved by me, by name, in consultation with the MDSG chair and the Director, MDA. MDA's Program Integration office will facilitate such access, and may also provide staff support for MDSG assessments. The designated supporting staff will be formed into an MDSG Working Group.

The objective of the Working Group is to promote the success of the BMDS by means of informed, constructive advice, both in support of the Director, MDA and the MDSG members, and in other processes within the Department, including the Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System. The Working Group will perform independent analysis and assessment, as approved by the MDSG. Because of expertise and continuity requirements, attendance at MDSG meetings will be limited to appointees and designated staff only. However, the MDSG Chair may call upon other offices to participate, as needed. Please provide your nominees for the MDSG and designated staff support to the MDSG chairman within seven days from the date of this memorandum.

The first task of the MDSG will be to review MDA's draft plan to implement Secretary Rumsfeld's Missile Defense Program Direction of January 2, 2002, and my subsequent implementation guidance. The MDSG will provide its advice regarding this plan to the Director, MDA, and me before we seek SEC approval of that plan.

Rapid decision-making and streamlined oversight will be key to the success of the Department's missile defense program. Consistent therewith, the MDSG shall play a continuing role by providing insights and advice throughout the development of the BMDS.



E. C. Aldridge, Jr.